

The West Virginian

"THE PAPER THAT GOES HOME."

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WEDNESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 28, 1918.



By uniting we stand, by dividing we fall.
Then join in hands, brave Americans all.

SCHOOL CODES AND TEACHERS.

FROM the standpoint of laymen whose only interest in the matter is a sincere desire to see West Virginia have the best schools possible the most interesting remark made by State Superintendent of Schools Shawkey in his address to the Marion county teachers Monday afternoon was when he said that neither the new course nor the new code were intended to hamper the teachers in their work, and that the purpose is to help them.

Public school education in this country, where that kind of education is the backbone of our entire system, has been hampered to a staggering degree by the limitations imposed by codes and courses which were handed down from above, or which, like Topsy, "just grew."

We must have codes and courses of study, of course. There must be a certain uniformity about our educational system, but every time a teacher or a city runs up against the "verbotten" of an iron clad school law when an attempt is made courageously to cope with some individual or local problem in a rational way it ought to be possible to call up the legislature or the state superintendent or whoever is responsible for such a stupid condition and read the guilty party the riot act.

In drafting a school code there are many things that ought to be remembered, but the one thing that should never be forgotten is that both code and course of study should be nothing more than a standardizing basis upon which boards of education, superintendents and teachers may stand as they work out their particular problems.

IMPORTANT POST VACANT.

SINCE 1897, the beginning of the first McKinley administration the United States has had just four representatives of full ambassadorial rank in England. Henry White, very creditably represented us as charge d'affaires at the seat of the British government for a year between the recall of John Hay, who became secretary of state in McKinley's cabinet, and the arrival at his post of Joseph Choate, but as Mr. White was a secretary of the legation staff under Ambassador Hay and returned to that status under Ambassador Choate his interregnum service does not count. In the same 21 years seven men have been ambassadors to Italy, six men ambassadors to France, seven men to Austria and eight men to Russia.

It is a fair inference from a comparison of these statistics that the ambassadorship at the court of St. James, to put it the way the writers of matters diplomatic usually do, is a fairly pleasant job which ought to be held onto as long as possible. And as Walter Hines Page got along with it very pleasantly, even if he did not cut as much of a figure in social and political circles as some of his distinguished predecessors did, and as there is not a shadow of dissatisfaction with his conduct either in London or Washington, he probably is as he says in his resignation a sick man and anxious to be relieved of responsibilities, which naturally would have weighed less heavily if Mr. Page were wealthy and able to maintain his status without having any anxieties about the cost of living in war time.

However, wealth in the American and British sense has never been necessary to the success of an American ambassador to England. Some of our most successful diplo-

matists in England were poor men, while Whitelaw Reid, the editor of the New York Tribune, was the only really wealthy man we have had at London since our Civil war. On the other hand, there have been times when the test of tact and intellect has been severe, and it is one of the finest things about our diplomatic history that in each one of these crises the man who happened to be at London was magnificently equal to the occasion.

Perhaps the severest test of that kind was that which Charles Francis Adams went through when he was our minister in England during the Civil war and there was a powerful party in England which tried by every political art it could apply to get the British government to recognize the Confederacy. But diplomatic skill was born into Charles Francis Adams, for his father was John Quincy Adams, who before he was elected to the presidency had long experience in American diplomatic matters and was perhaps the most active as he certainly was the most skillful negotiator the government at Washington ever employed.

Cleveland's two appointees too had their work cut out for them. Edward J. Phelps, who represented us at London during the first Cleveland administration, had to smooth over the incident when his chief sent Lord Sackville-West packing for getting mixed up in a political campaign in this country, while Thomas F. Bayard, who had been the secretary of state during the first administration, as our first ambassador to England during the second administration personally gave the lion's tail the twist which Cleveland ordered over the Venezuela incident.

So it is to be hoped that Mr. Wilson will exercise the greatest of care in the selection of a successor to Ambassador Page. Anything is likely to be asked of the man at this post and we need to be well served there more than ever before. Page got his appointment because he was a literary man who was an original Wilson man and had succeeded in getting on terms of great personal friendship, if not intimacy, with the President—a by no means easy thing to do. We have sent many literary men to England and the English seem to like them. Nevertheless there have been times during the past five years when it would have been more comfortable for all concerned if we had had a man of a different type as ambassador to Britain. When the time comes to bring the many questions growing out of the war to a head we ought to have a man of large affairs in that post. And the more he knows about statecraft of the first order the better it will be for us and for the country to which he is accredited. We need a big man; the biggest man the country affords and the President ought to ignore political lines if need be when he names that man.

The Times this morning prints a long editorial under the head "The Great Danger to Come" and we gather that the man who wrote it means to suggest that the country will be headed straight for perdition if Congress is not Democratic and Lieutenant Colonel Clarence W. Watson a member of the Senate when the peace treaties come up for consideration. It is either a congenitally stupid or a short minded Democrat who raises such a point, for it is precisely there that the Democratic party in Congress is weakest. At the head of the Senate Foreign Affairs committee, to which will be referred all business connected with the peace, is Gilbert M. Hitchcock, a Nebraskaan of bolshevik tendencies, whose pro-German sympathies were so pronounced that there was a widespread protest upon the part of the better informed Democratic newspapers when after the death of Senator Stone it became apparent that the Democratic caucus was going to make him chairman of the committee. The Democrats who actually control in Congress—Claude Kitchin, chairman of the important House Ways and Means; S. Hubert Dent, Jr., chairman of the House Military Affairs committee; J. Thomas Heflin, the Democratic floor leader, and others high in the councils of the party, are all tarred with the same stick to such an extent that if patriotism does become an issue in this campaign the voters are quite likely to conclude that the only safe thing to do is to turn all the Democrats out, and keep out all who are trying to get in on the strength of their superior loyalty. The woman who boasts of her virtue and the man who advertises his honesty from time immemorial have been viewed with suspicion. It is about time to apply the same rule to the political party that prates of its patriotism.

Passage by the Senate of the man power bill leaves only the conference regarding the work and fight clause to be disposed of before the act becomes a law. The operation of the act is going to cause a great deal of sacrifice and confusion in this country, but those who are hard hit by it ought to remember that it is the kaiser and his crew that brought this on and save their feelings of indignation until they can get in closer range.

There is no more reason why there should be border trouble on the south than on the north, but as long as the Mexicans give asylum to German agitators and conspirators we may expect outbreaks from time to time such as the one that occurred yesterday. And inasmuch as we must have them, it will be a good thing to be as well prepared for them as we were for the one yesterday, when the loss on the Mexican side of the line was out of all proportion to that on this side. Some day it will dawn on the Mexican mind that it pays to keep the peace.

One death among the 8,500 men in the merchant marine service in the past seven months and a daily sick rate of one per cent ought to look good to the old boys who expect to be drafted into some branch of Uncle Sam's service before very long. Getting into the service is quite likely to prolong the lives of many men over 31 when it can produce such remarkable morbidity records among younger men.

RUFF STUFF

Those greasers down at Nogales ought to learn to shoot before they start anything with the American army.

The score was so one sided that it is a shame to call what happened a fight.

Doc Garfield is going to clomp down upon Sunday auto trips.

It'll be safe to venture outdoors on Sunday if he can make that stick.

The Astonisher this morning talks about past performances in connection with the candidates for United States Senate in this state.

Isn't that dangerous ground?

But there are a whole lot of stall fed bachelors all over the country who are wishing tonight they had worked a little harder and kept in better physical trim.

Oosh, how they will suffer during that rookie drill.

And how tickled to death they will be when they suddenly find that they are again as good as nature in-

tended they should be at their time of life.

War isn't all hell—only parts of it.

Lamp in the Astonisher that Red Swiger, who is now working for Uncle Sam, was part of the President's escort when he visited Colonel House the other day.

Bet Woody felt highly honored.

But maybe not.

As a rule Woody does not get on well with journalists.

Notice that taxis are mentioned among the kind of cars that the government wants to stop burning up gas on Sundays.

While they are about it, and as a matter of support for the government, the city authorities ought to put about 50 per cent of the so called taxis clear out of business in this town.

That would be killing two birds with one stone, for it would cut the bootlegging to a minimum.

Federal Fuel Administrator J. Walter Barnes ought to step over and have a heart to heart talk with City Commissioner J. Walter Barnes about this little detail.

What People Say and Some Side Remarks

Prof. H. J. Taylor, of Lancaster, Pa., who holds an enviable position in musical circles of Pennsylvania, made his first visit to Fairmont in his capacity as singing-man at the Marion County Institute this week. He is quite enthusiastic over West Virginia voices and West Virginia disposition to sing. He said:

"The willingness with which the Marion county teachers took up the singing and the splendid voices heard leads me to believe that West Virginia is a particularly good field for community singing. In many places the singers are backward and it requires a most winning personality to get them enthused but here at Fairmont I found singers willing as well as talented."

Prof. Taylor gets out a song book every year and is at the head of oratorical and community singing around Lancaster.

The whale pushes its way through the water for hours at a time at from ten to twelve miles an hour.

Send in That Design For A City Flag

Some time ago The West Virginian announced that it would give a prize of \$10 for the best design for a city flag for Fairmont, the contest to close September 1. A number of designs have been submitted but the contest is still wide open, and every one who has a design in mind should send it in.

The idea is the big thing, and when the prize winning design is selected a rough sketch will have just as good a chance as the most finished drawing. Get busy right away. Ten dollars will buy two War Savings stamps and a couple of Thrift stamps, and all you have to do to get it is a little clever thinking. Remember the contest closes September 1.

SENATOR JAMES DIES IN HOSPITAL

Kentuckian Was One of the Most Picturesque Figures in Congress.



OLLIE M. JAMES

(By Associated Press)
WASHINGTON, Aug. 28.—Senator Ollie M. James, of Kentucky, died at 6:30 o'clock this morning at a hospital in Baltimore where he had been ill for some time.

Ollie M. James was one of the most picturesque and forceful figures in Congress as well as a popular idol among Kentucky Democrats. He ranked during his leadership in both houses of his successive service in the House and Senate, and his towering physique and powerful voice always commanded attention in legislative and convention halls. He was nominated to succeed himself in the Senate in the recent Kentucky Democratic primaries by an overwhelming vote.

After the United States entered the war in 1917 Senator James became one of the most aggressive Senate spokesmen of the administration and champion of the army and navy preparations. His last appearance at the Capitol was on February 14 last to deliver a fiery speech in answer to an attack upon the War department by Senator Chamberlain, chairman of the Military committee. He appealed to all Americans not to heckle, badger or handicap the President, and declared "we are going to make the Kaiser hand over his sword."

Three days later he was taken ill at a dinner. Several weeks afterward he insisted on returning to the Sen-

August 28, 1918.

COURTNEYS' STORE NEWS

Reliable Advertising

If You Are of An Economical Turn of Mind—Every Price Ticket In This Store Will Arouse Your Enthusiasm

We Provide the Essentials

It is the patriotic duty of all of us to restrict our purchases to essentials. Consequently the demand for essentials has greatly increased, and every store endeavors to meet this demand.

This store is equal to all demands upon it, as is proven by the completeness of our new Fall and Winter stocks. Besides, our Prices are an incentive to patriotic economy because they are the lowest for quality that is never allowed to drop.

We are better prepared than ever to take care of the increased demand for essentials.

A Bountiful Profusion of NEW WAISTS.

The excellent qualities and lovely styles of these new fall waists will attract you, while their exceedingly reasonable prices will prove irresistible!

You will be pleased with the diversity of models provided and pleased with the perfection of fit and style possessed by each waist in our collection. Moreover, you will be more than pleased with the good values offered.



Lovely New Dresses

It doesn't seem as though dresses for women could be made so fascinatingly youthful! These new Fall models, with their beautiful and graceful lines and simple neck and sleeve forms are indeed the height of dress development!

There isn't a single disturbing element in these new Fall dresses.

The fabrics such as Jersey, Velour, Gabardine, Georgette, Crepe de Chine, Tricoulette, Taffeta, etc., lend themselves with faultless grace to the new Silhouette; the trimmings are in perfect harmony and the colors blend charmingly.

You Will Find Satisfaction in the Size of Our Stocks and Our Moderate Prices.

Charming Neckwear

A Necessity This Fall. The Fall apparel might almost have been designed especially so that neckwear would have to be added.

You'll agree when you see the lovely collection we offer.

Our August Fur Display & Sale

This Week On Wednesday and Thursday, the 28th and 29th. H. & B. Marks of Detroit will display their entire Sample Line Under Supervision of Mr. W. A. Sniffen.

True Values

Courtneys'

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ate, but was too weak to take any part and soon went to Johns Hopkins hospital in Baltimore. He was operated on in an effort to stay the ravages of a chronic case of Bright's disease.

Mrs. James, and a brother, Edgar James, United States Marshal for the Western district of Kentucky, were with the Senator at the hospital during his long fight for life. Many members of both houses of Congress went over to Baltimore frequently to pay cheering visits.

Other relatives of the Senator are his sisters, Miss Lizzie James, who lives with her father at the James Homestead at Marion, Ky., and Mrs. J. F. Gordon, of Madisonville, and his father, Judge S. H. James, of Marion. Mrs. James was formerly Ruth Thomas, of Marion, Ky. She was married to Senator James in 1903.

Senator James was a prophet of Democratic success in every political contest and an outspoken partisan on all occasions. He made the keynote speech on Democratic achievements at the St. Louis Democratic national convention in 1916 and drew from that gathering of 10,000 persons cries of "Give it to us, again Ollie" when epitomizing President Wilson's policies. He made the speech notifying President Wilson of his election to the presidency in September, 1915.

Senator James was 47 years old. He began public life as a page in the Kentucky legislature. He succeeded Bryan's nomination for President in 1903, headed the Kentucky delegation to Democratic national conventions in 1904 and 1908, served in the House in

Speeders Fined In Police Court Today

R. H. Keener was arrested on Pennsylvania avenue during last evening, charged with running with an open cutoff. His case came up at police court this morning, but owing to the fact that Traffic Officer Ward was unable to be present, the fine which will be forthcoming was not imposed by Mayor Bowen.

Lloyd Ganoe was taken into custody on Main street yesterday charged with exceeding the speed limit by Traffic Officer Ward. His case was up this morning also, but owing to the absence of Officer Ward his fine was also deferred until later.

Glenn Snyder was arrested at the wharf yesterday, charged with being drunk, and was given the customary five dollar fine today.

Nettie Ross, colored, a native of Point Marion, who has given the city authorities trouble before, and who was sent out of town, appeared in the city again last night and was placed in the city jail. She will be sent back to Point Marion.

Breaking the glass in a new fire alarm box intended for hotel or office building rooms permits the alarm to be sounded and frees a fire escape rope and harness.

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OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE

(BY GONDO)

